



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was irregular, ranging from about steady to fully steady. Demand was light to fair, and tapered in some areas; however, interest was best for fast food and retail specials, and restaurants at lodging facilities. Supplies of smaller sized product was balanced to limited, but heavier weights were at least adequate. In the parts structure, trading was slow to fair. Breast items were available with bone-in breasts in the best position, and boneless skinless occasionally discounted. Dark meat was more than adequate, and wings were mixed, but obtainable. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were in a full range, but mostly desirable to heavier than preferred.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading advanced .25 cents to 74.75 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 63.50 cents last year on April 16, 2003.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
LINE RUN TENDERS	258.00
BREASTS - B/S	228.00
BREASTS - WHOLE	124.00
THIGH MEAT - B/S	112.00
LEG QUARTERS	34.50
WINGS	131.00

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady, instances firm. Retail demand was light to moderate, best for features. Food service was fair to fairly good, best into fast food for promotions. Supplies were adequate to short of full trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was light to moderate. Breast items were balanced to close, wings were sufficient, and dark meat was available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was generally fair at best and noted as typical of midweek trading. Offerings of the 3 pound and lighter birds were in good balance. The 3.5 pound and heavier weights were at least sufficient. Retail and distributive draw was limited. The market tone was at least steady on the 3 pound birds, about steady on the balance. In the parts complex, boneless-skinless breasts were adequate to available at times, however, bone-in breasts were closely balanced. Dark meat items were at least sufficient. Wings were clearing well and tenderloins were close.

MIDWEST The market tone on whole broiler/fryers was mostly steady, occasionally fully steady. Additional light weight wogs and whole fryers were limited, heavier weights adequate for fair trade interest. Retail and food service demand was varied and easing somewhat. Scattered retail features, a few fast food outlets and hotel/motel restaurants were providing moderate to fairly good market activity. Floor stocks were in a full range with spot shortages of small wogs noted. Weights mostly desirable to trending heavier than desired. Parts interest was slacking overall. Offerings were adequate; shortages of regular wings continued to surface in the Detroit market area and discounts were noted on an occasional spot load of boneless/skinless breasts or large wings. The market tone was mostly steady on breast items and regular wings, all other items cautiously steady to instances weak.

WESTERN The market tone was fully steady. Offerings in fairly good balance. Retailer demand was fair to fairly good best to cover ads. Floor stocks adequate.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES WEEK ENDING 04/10/04	2004	2003	PERCENT CHANGE <u>PREVIOUS YEAR</u>
EGGS SET	212,939	209,388	+02
CHICKS PLACED	171,566	168,725	+02

BROILER EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 2 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 213 million eggs in incubators during the week ending April 10, 2004. This was up 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

CHICKS PLACED UP 2 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 172 million chicks for meat production during the week ending April 10, 2004. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 28, 2003 through April 10, 2004 were 2.54 billion, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for the marketing during the week ending 22-May-04 is estimated at 158.7 million head. This compares to 158.6 million head the previous week and to 158.4 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 161.0 million head and the composite weighted average price was 60.00 cents per pound.

APRIL 13, 2004

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

APRIL 14, 2004

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	884	212.00-296.00	214-218	222.01
TENDERLOINS	231	229.00-278.00	229-237	238.13
BREAST - LINE RUN	123	114.00-127.00	114-118	117.59
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	113	38.00-56.00	38-40	40.69
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	555	30.00-33.00	30-31	30.77
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	940	32.00-38.00	33-35	33.53
WINGS (WHOLE)	312	120.00-134.00	124-126	124.43
WINGS (CUT)	485	137.00-142.00	137-139	139.00
DRUMSTICKS	54	30.00-59.00	-	37.07
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE
69.00 - 74.50	71.25

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	897	210.00-296.00	212-215	214.68
TENDERLOINS	198	230.00-278.00	235-239	241.16
BREAST - LINE RUN	123	114.00-127.00	115-118	117.63
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	113	38.00-56.00	39-40	40.69
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	635	29.00-33.00	30-31	30.67
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	940	32.00-36.00	33-35	33.49
WINGS (WHOLE)	307	120.00-134.00	124-126	124.27
WINGS (CUT)	692	137.00-142.00	137-139	139.24
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
69.00 - 74.50	71.64	71.66

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying activity was cautious and selective during midweek trading as dealers attempted to gauge market developments. Offerings of boneless-skinless breasts were available at times with spot discounting noted, however, product was manageable at current call. Bone-in breasts were in very good balance and commanding normal premiums. Dark meat lines were at least sufficient. Wings were adequate to balanced and tenderloins were clearing well. Retail movement was fair and distributive draw remained limited. The market tone was fully steady on bone-in breasts and tenderloins, mostly steady boneless-skinless breasts and about steady on the balance.

ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND.

APRIL 13, 2004

APRIL 14, 2004

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	220	216.10	422,591
TENDERLOINS	235	202.88	162,710
BREAST - WITH RIBS	114-115	119.94	137,360
BREAST - LINE RUN	114	114.89	119,440
LEGS	43-44	45.49	165,039
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	33-34	33.32	419,303
DRUMSTICKS	31-32	40.47	101,270
THIGHS	42-43	46.01	78,990
B/S THIGHS	110-111	110.42	53,850
WINGS (WHOLE)	116-117	122.24	161,160
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.14	20,080
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	33.22	18,625
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	60.12	19,070

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	220	215.74	421,888
TENDERLOINS	235	228.07	37,180
BREAST - WITH RIBS	114-115	121.58	78,640
BREAST - LINE RUN	114	115.78	141,400
LEGS	43-44	41.28	394,282
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	33-34	33.29	345,565
DRUMSTICKS	31-32	41.68	79,600
THIGHS	42-43	48.19	54,840
B/S THIGHS	110-111	107.45	29,040
WINGS (WHOLE)	116-117	126.02	88,400
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.79	48,652
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	33.33	9,400
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	59.74	20,200

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED (1,000)	ACTUAL (1,000)	AVG WTS	ACTUAL WTS	AVG WTS
	04/14	04/13	04/12	04/09	04/07
ALA	3,972	4,032	3,762	3,561	5.19
ARK	5,279	5,369	5,182	5,019	5.13
DELMARVA	2,046	2,244	1,052	1,683	5.97
KY-LA-TN	2,063	2,021	1,854	1,939	5.21
MISS	2,758	3,058	2,985	2,898	5.52
NC	2,441	2,438	1,839	1,897	6.54
TEXAS	2,233	2,200	2,620	2,263	5.25
TOTAL	20,792	21,362	19,294	19,260	5.41
MON-WED 61,506 (A)					5.06
					21,111
					5.36
					62,664 (A)

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 14-Apr is estimated to be 31,107,000 down 1.8 percent from a week ago and up 6.9 percent from a year ago. (Last week 31,679,000; last year 29,099,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	93-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP	95-105
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	71-81
DUCKS	-
RABBITS-WHOLE	-
RABBITS-CUT UP	-

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	105
	DRY PACK	105-114
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	105-107
	DRY PACK	107-109
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	88-93
	DRY PACK	93-95
DUCKS		162-185

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 17-APR-04

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	04/17/04(1)	04/10/04
THOUSAND HEAD		
BRO-FRY	158,112 (2)	155,106
LT HENS	1,494	1,495
HVY HENS	1,366	1,360
CHECK TOTAL	160,972	157,961

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 17-Apr-04 is 158.8 million head compared to 146.2 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 158.4 million head or 0.4 million less than estimated available. For week of 24-Apr-04 the estimated available is 159.9 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS (INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY	PROCESSED POULTRY
	LBS	LBS
AM 04/12/04	183,619	44,043
AM 04/01/04	183,458	41,759
CHG	161	2,284
PCT CHG	0	5

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	04/12/04	04/05/04	04/14/03	04/12/04	04/05/04	04/14/03
PACIFIC COAST	6,977	7,020	9,783	3,456	3,640	9,124
LOS ANGELES	421	432	116	1,957	2,138	3,653

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF APRIL 12, 2004

	RANGE
HENSICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	66-71
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	68-78

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 04/13/04

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY				LOW HIGH AVG			
	LOW	HIGH	AVG		LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	-	-	-	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	-	-	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	.10	.25	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	-	-
ROOSTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROOSTERS ea.	-	-	-
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-	-
DUCKS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
RABBITS lb.	1.00	2.50	1.43	RABBITS ea.	-	-	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	4.00	6.00	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	-	-	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	3.00	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-	-
CHUKARS ea.	-	-	-				
TOTAL COOPS	18						

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending April 9, 2004

	Whole Chickens	Legs Breasts	Necks,Back w/ Thighs	Livers/ Gizzards	Hens
RAYON					
Low	60.74	121.47	72.88	12.15	12.15
High	62.36	129.57	80.98	20.25	16.20
Mostly	61.95	129.57	80.98	16.20	16.20
SAN JUAN					
Low	60.74	121.47	72.88	12.15	12.15
High	62.36	129.57	80.98	16.20	16.20
Mostly	61.55	121.47	72.88	12.15	12.15
NEW SAN JUAN					
Low	59.93	121.47	72.88	12.15	12.15
High	62.36	129.57	80.98	16.20	16.20
Mostly	61.55	129.57	72.88	12.15	12.15
BECERRA					
Low	60.74	121.47	72.88	12.15	12.15
High	62.76	133.62	80.98	16.20	16.20
Mostly	61.95	133.62	80.98	16.20	12.15

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was seasonally fair to moderate. Offerings were generally noted as adequate and clearing satisfactorily, particularly on the middle sizes. Live supplies were moderate; weights were often lighter than desired. Processor schedules were moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 76 to 87 cents. Trade sentiment was mostly steady. In the parts complex, supplies were adequate to well cleared with bone-in breasts generally noted as in the closer balance.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

	BRANDED U.S. GRADE A
RANGE	73-91
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	78.11
NO. OF BOXES	7,533

*7 of 7 plants reporting.

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